

“Advocacy in Action”: Investment for Impact in HIV Response

Light House Consortium organized a National Advocacy Meeting on December 15, 2016 for providing an understanding to the policy makers, development partners, different department's representatives of GOB and community leaders about the gaps and future immediate need of the country HIV program targeting FSWs and what to do further in the development of new plan and program. A total of 57 (participants: 45 and Consortium Staff: 12) GO and NGO representatives including UN organization and development partners, human rights organizations named UNAIDS, USAID, UNFPA, MJF, GIZ, ICDDR,B, CARE,-B, PIACT, National PLHIV network, STI Network, Pathfinder –NSHDP, Bandhu, YPSA, SJA, department of Social service, directorate of Family Planning and Health Services etc. participated. The major decisions include as outcome of the event which includes (i); proceed for effective innovative future program design to reduce pressure in donor-supported funds and mainstreaming of HIV program which will ultimately help in increase program coverage (ii) leveraging resources in collaboration with the different wing of Bangladesh Government (iii) trying to use Government health infrastructure where possible as part of health system strengthening (iv) bringing FSWs and their children under the current safety net programming of Bangladesh Government (v) HPNSP future programming will try to increase coverage as many as possible.



Annual Gathering with Restorative Justice (RJ) Facilitators



On 22 December 2016, Light House organized “Annual Gathering with RJ Facilitators” at Bogra with participation of RJ facilitators and project beneficiaries. Before started the formal discussion and experience sharing by RJ facilitators and the beneficiaries a colorful and vibrant “Rally” was organized on “Annual Gathering with RJ Facilitators” where Rita Das Roy-Capacity Building Manager-GIZ, Nibras Sakafi-Manager-RJ & Diversion, UP Chairman of Birkedar and Narhatta of Kahaloo Upazila, Bogra, RJ Facilitators, beneficiaries of the project, IRSOP project staffs and Light House representatives were actively participated in the rally. The rally was started from Bogra Zilla Parishad campus on 10:30 AM and circumambulated the court road and end on 11:00 AM at Zilla Parishad, Bogra in the event location. About 100 people directly attended in this rally and 400 peoples of the district indirectly observed and aware about Restorative Justice by the rally. Then all participants were attended at Auditorium, Bogra Zilla Parishad, Bogra and participated a discussion session. Rita Das Roy, Manager-Capacity Building Restorative Justice, (Improvement of the Real Situation of Overcrowding in Prisons) GIZ Bangladesh welcomed all the participants for attending in this gathering. She told to the RJ Facilitators that which we have achieved in 2016 we need to keep this

achievement for future. Chief guest Begum Jesmin Ara Jahan, District Legal Aid officer viewed RJ as a good work. She mentioned overloaded case pressure in courts. Day by day this pressure is increasing. So if RJ can resist the compoundable cases to come into court, then case loaded in court will be minimized and in that meantime existing cases will be resolved. Considering this issues, she appreciated RJ services and gave official hot number for getting legal aid services. In this session Mr. Ruhul Amin, Chairman of Birkedar Union, Kahaloo, Mr. Selim Ali, Chairman of Birkedar union, RJ facilitators, beneficiaries and Mr. Nicholas Biswas, President of this meeting and team leader of IJLAS project were attended. Mr. Md. Harun-Or Rashid, Chief Executive of Light House delivered his speech via Skype. He told that good work of RJ facilitators enhanced their acceptance in their community with enhancing credibility of Light House to its donor and local people. We can present case study to different meetings and seminars and hope that your support and good work for human kind will sustain continuously. During the discussion an award giving ceremony were held for best RJ facilitator who work hard to established RJ in their community.

International Human Right Day 2016



**AM Md. Sayed-senior District Judge Bogra address-
ing in the seminar.**

Light House observed International Human Right Day (IHRD) on 10th December 2016 at 11 upazila and district town of Bogra, Joy-purhat, Noagoan, Sirajgonj, Pabna, Chapai Nowabgonj and Rajshahi district with a colorful rally, demonstration and discussion meeting under Improved Justice and Legal Aid Services (IJLAS) Project. The theme of this year was "Stand up Someone's Rights Today". In Bogra city, Light House organized a huge demonstration with other Human rights activists working this district. After completion of the rally and demonstration a seminar was held at Auditorium of Bogra Municipality, Bogra. In this seminar Mr. Md. Harun-or-Rashid, Chief Executive of Light House welcomed to all guests and shared the objective of this seminar as chairperson of this seminar. Mr. A M Md. Sayed - Senior District Judge, Bogra, were present as chief guest. Advocate Mahbubur Rahman- Mayor Bogra Municipality, Bipul Chandra Rabidas-secretary adibasshi parisad Bogra, Nicholas Biswas-Team Leader IJLAS, Advocate Shekh Md. Rejaur Rahman-General secretary- Bogra Bar, Syed Fazle Rabbi-President Bogra Journalist union, Swapan Kumar Mistri- representative BRAC Bogra, Adv. Ashrafunnahar Swapna- Coordinator BLAST Bogra, Md. Shamim Ahmed-AD Narcotic Control -Bogra, Advocate A. AM. Myinul-GP Bogra, Zahedur Rahman Jadu-President Bogra press club, Md. Shahidul Islam Khan-DD Social welfare-Bogra, Dr. A.T.AM Nuruzzaman-Deputy civil surgeon Bogra, Md. Abdul Jalil -Additional Police Super Bogra, Md. Rafiqul Islam, DDLG Bogra were present and discussed human right issues with all participants.



**Mr. Aminul Islam, Additional Divisional Commis-
sion, Rajshahi Division specking on the seminar**

In Rajshahi, Light House also organized a seminar on International Human Right Day (IHRD) where Additional Divisional Commission Mr. Aminul Islam join as Chief Guest and all the departmental head were present as special guest. Layers, Journalists, Human rights activist, leaders of the minority communities also attended in this seminar and took part in discussion.

Seminar on Light House School for Learning and Diversity



Light House organized a seminar and discussion session for Light House School for Learning and Diversity that held on December 29 2016, at Bogra Proshava Hall room. In this seminar, Novelist Selina Hossain Chairman of Bangladesh Shishu Academy, Ekushe Medal holder Polan Sarkar, the man of inspiration, Professor Habiba Begum, President of Light House, Md. Tofazzal Hossain, Principal of Light House School for Learning and Diversity, Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, chief Executive of Light House, Prof. Dr. Hosne- Ara Begum, Executive Director of TMSS and others GOs and NOGs representatives were attended and participated the discussion session. In the seminar, Md. Harun-Or-Rashid delivered the welcome speech and shared objectives for this seminar to all invitees and guests attended. Md. Tofazzal Hossain, Principal of LHSFLD displayed a power point presentation about the details description of the school and how the school will be separate from others. The chief guest Novelist Selina Hossain (Chairman of Bangladesh Shishu Academy) delivered her important speeches and advised for Light House School. In the end Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, moderated an open discussion and answered some questions that were raised from the guests and participants. The foundation stone laying ceremony for Light House School for Learning and Diversity were held following day of the seminar. On December 30, 2016 prominent Novelist Selina Hossain, Ekushe Medal holder Polan Sarkar, Additional Superintend of Police Bogra, principal, Upazila chairman of Kahaloo, Upazila Education officer, UP Chairman, teacher, different GOs & NGOs representatives and community people were present.



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